

# Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District

## Fact Sheet

**General Information:** The Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District was organized in 1941 after several farmers became alarmed after seeing the fertility and the livelihood of the land they loved disappear. The District's overriding goal is to minimize soil erosion. Great headway has been made on this goal. They continue to put voluntary conservation on the ground.

### Mission (or Function):

- Mission statement: To be the primary entity leading non-regulatory efforts in the conservation, sustainment, improvement, and enhancement of Nez Perce County's natural resources.
- Vision statement: A county with a sustainable landscape.

### FY 2015 Accomplishments:

- Developed the District's first conservation easement of about 2 acres, as part of the Webb Rd improvement project. Local landowners allow a portion of their land to be used for wetland development.
- Hosted the 72<sup>nd</sup> annual Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts state-wide conference attended by approximately 300 people.
- Finalized a five-year effort to inventory and assess 1,981 stream miles within watersheds along the lower Clearwater River.
- Completed a hydrology and channel stability assessment for flood and erosion impacts in Nez Perce County.
- Treated 2.7 acres of knotweed along Lapwai Creek; 118 acres of orange hawkweed; 130 acres of yellow star thistle and spotted knapweed using biocontrol agents; 19.8 acres of stream for noxious weeds.

- Received funding through the Idaho Governor's Office of Species Conservation for replacing a bridge on Mission Creek. Project removes a fish passage barrier, restoring access to 16 miles of stream.



**Local landowners sign conservation easement agreements.**

### Future Plans and Projects:

- Monitoring and analyzing data from two weather stations installed in the summer of 2015.
- Mission Creek Bridge Removal and Replacement Project.
- Implementation of Phase III of the Tom Beall Riparian Restoration Project.
- Completion of Phase I Lindsay Creek Water Quality Improvement Project.
- Removal of fish passage barriers along Mission, Sweetwater, Tom Beall, and Bear Creeks will be the focus for the next two years.

### FY 2015 District Funding:

State Funding	\$60,330
County Funding	\$28,500
Donations	\$2,353
Grants/Contracts	\$310,626
Business Activities	\$84,446
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$486,255</b>